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ROUTINE

Intelligence Information Cable

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SECRET

DIST 31 OCTOBER 1972

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 23-27 OCTOBER 1972

SUBJECT MOVES TOWARD POSSIBLE COOPERATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION
BY SENATE CHAIRMAN NGUYEN VAN HUYEN'S SENATE LILY
GROUP AND BY THE PEOPLES FORWARD TOGETHER BLOC

ACQ VIETNAM, SAIGON (28 OCTOBER 1972) FIELD NO.

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(dissem controls)

1. ON 27 OCTOBER 1972, FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION OF PRO-ADMINISTRATION AND LILY GROUP SENATORS TO ELECT THEIR CANDIDATES TO THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT (GVN) INSPECTORATE, LILY SENATOR LA THANH N G H E ADVISED ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE SENATE PRO-ADMINISTRATION GROUP THAT SENATE CHAIRMAN NGUYEN VAN H U Y E N, LEADER OF THE LILY GROUP DESIRES TO OFFER HIS COOPERATION AND SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN T H I E U. NGHE INDICATED THAT HUYEN IS UNCERTAIN HOW TO GO ABOUT IT, HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE TENSIONS BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE LILY GROUP AS A RESULT OF CLASHES IN THE SENATE. NGHE WAS TOLD THAT HIS APPROACH ON BEHALF OF HUYEN WOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH NGUYEN VAN N G A N, PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LIAISON WITH COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND WITH THE SENATE PRO-ADMINISTRATION LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE, WHICH WORKS UNDER NGAN'S GUIDANCE.

2. ALSO ON 27 OCTOBER, MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE STATED THAT THEY INTENDED TO DISCUSS WITH AN QUANG BUDDHIST SENATORS TRAN GUANG T H U A N AND TON THAT N I E M THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR COLLABORATING WITH THE ADMINISTRATION DURING THE FORTHCOMING CRUCIAL POLITICAL PERIOD. THEY BELIEVE AN

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APPROACH TO THESE TWO MEMBERS OF THE AN QUANG LOTUS GROUP IN THE SENATE IS PROPITIOUS, BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE NATIONAL SITUATION, THE FACT THAT NEITHER THUAN NOR NIEM MUST STAND FOR REELECTION IN 1973, AND THE VIRTUAL DISINTEGRATION OF THE LOTUS GROUP AS A COHESIVE OPPOSITION POLITICAL FORCE.

3. IN LATE OCTOBER THERE WAS AGREEMENT AMONG LEADERS OF THE CATHOLIC PEOPLES FORWARD TOGETHER BLOC (PFTB), THE ALLIANCE OF HUYEN'S LILY GROUP, THE GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCE (GSF), AND THE VIETNAM REVOLUTIONARY SOCIAL HUMANIST PARTY (NHAN XA), THAT WITH A CEASE-FIRE AND SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS, THE PFTB SHOULD COLLABORATE WITH PRESIDENT THIEU'S ADMINISTRATION, PROVIDED THE ADMINISTRATION TAKES THE FIRST STEP IN REQUESTING THE PFTB'S SUPPORT. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT SUCH SUPPORT SHOULD BE GIVEN UNCONDITIONALLY TO THE ADMINISTRATION BY ALL OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES AS VITAL TO THE THWARTING OF A COMMUNIST POLITICAL TAKEOVER OF SOUTH VIETNAM. ALSO, NGUYEN GIA H I E N, GSF CHAIRMAN AND PFTB CO-CHAIRMAN AND LILY SENATOR NGUYEN TU B A N, HUYEN'S CHIEF AIDE, WERE PARTICULARLY FORCEFUL IN ARGUING THAT ONLY THROUGH SUCH COOPERATION WILL THE PFTB BE ABLE TO ENHANCE ITS POLITICAL STATUS.

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4. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY MACV 7TH AIR FORCE AT SAIGON:
SENT TO CINCPAC ARPAC PACFLT PACAF PARIS.

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REPORT CLASS S E C R E T [REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. EXEMPT FROM
GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E.O. 11652 EXEMPTION
CATEGORY 5B (2). IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE DATE OF AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION.

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